

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 02637 281908Z

55

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00 /031 W

----- 127367

O 281841Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 875

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 2637

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, ASEC, MX

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 27: PATTERSON KIDNAPPING: CONSUL

GENERAL'S STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING STATMENT RELEASED BY ELMER YELTON, CONSUL
GENERAL, HERMOSILLO, SONORA, MARCH 28, 1974, 11:45 A.M.
MEXICO CITY TIME:

MR. JOHN PATTERSON, WHO HAS SERVED AS VICE CONSUL IN
CHARGE OF COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS AT THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE
GENERAL IN HERMOSILLO, MEXICO, SINCE JANUARY 1974, WAS
LAST SEEN LEAVING THE CONSULATE GENERAL AT APPROXIMATELY
10:50 A.M. ON MARCH 22, 1974. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED AT
THAT TIME BY AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN AND IS BELIEVED TO HAVE
BEEN ON HIS WAY TO MEET AN OFFICIAL OF THE COMMITTEE FOR
LIVESTOCK PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT, BUT HE DID NOT
ARRIVE AT THE APPOINTED PLACE.

AT APPROXIMATELY 2:00 P.M., WHEN THE CONSULATE
GENERAL REOPENED FOR BUSINESS, A RANSOM NOTE
APPARENTLY IN MR. PATTERSON'S HANDWRITING, SAYING
HE HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED, WAS FOUND IN THE DOOR. THE
U.S. CONSULATE VEHICLE IN WHICH MR. PATTERSON LEFT
THE CONSULATE SUBSEQUENTLY WAS DISCOVERED ABANDONED
ON THE NORTHERN OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY.

MR. PATTERSON IS MARRIED. HIS WIFE HAS MADE
EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS
CONTAINED IN THE RANSOM NOTE. IN THE INTEREST OF HIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 02637 281908Z

SAFETY, IT WAS CONSIDERED IMPRUDENT TO DISCLOSE THE

FACT OF MR. PATTERSON'S DISAPPEARANCE OR ANY FURTHER
DETAILS. MRS. PATTERSON HAS RECEIVED NO WORD FROM HER
HUSBAND OR THIRD PARTIES.

2. EMBASSY RELEASED STATEMENT HERE SIMULTANEOUSLY.
JOVA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MEXICO02637
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740068-0053
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974038/aaaaahao.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITREP NO. 27: PATTERSON KIDNAPPING: CONSUL GENERAL'S STATEMENT
TAGS: PINR, ASEC, MX, US, (PATTERSON, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005